

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-18

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, ETRD, TZ, ZA

SUBJ: ZAMBIA TRANSPORT TRAFFIC THROUGH DAR ES SALAAM

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 760

1. APPRECIATE REPORT IN REFTEL WHICH IS FIRST WE HAVE HAD ON ACTUAL MOVEMENT OF GOODS SINCE BORDER CLOSURE; HOPE SUCH REPORTS CAN CONTINUE PERIODICALLY FOR TIME BEING AT LEAST. PARTICULARLY INTERESTING TO HEAR DAR PORT EQUIPPED HANDLE EXPLOSIVES. WHAT IS NATURE OF " PROCESSING" AT ZTRS STAGING AREA (PARA 2 REFTEL)? WE WERE UNDER IMPRESSION TANGOV HAD AGREED TO WAIVE FORMALITIES FOR ZAMBIA- BOUND GOODS.

2. RE ZAMBIAN EFFORT LIMIT DEPENDENCE ON DAR, THERE WAS A TIME EARLIER IN CRISIS WHEN " IDEOLOGUES" ADVOCATED ENDING ALL DEPENDENCE ON ROUTES THROUGH PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES AS WELL AS RHODESIA, IN EFFECT PUTTING NEARLY ALL EGGS IN DAR BASKET. APPEARS " PRAGMATISTS" HAVE WON OUT COMPLETELY, DRAWING LESSON FROM RHODESIA EXPERIENCE THAT WISEST COURSE IS KEEP AS MANY TRADE ROUTE OPTIONS OPEN AS POSSIBLE (EXCEPTING, OF COURSE, RHODESIAN ROUTE). MOREOVER, POLICY LIKELY AFFECTED BY ALMOST UNIVERSALLY EXPRESSED DOUBTS HERE ABOUT DAR PORT CAPABILITIES. MAY WELL BE ZAMBIANS ALSO REASON AVAILABILITY OF COMPETITIVE ALTERNATIVES WILL IMPROVE THEIR BARGAINING POWER WHEN TIME

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COMES FOR THEM TO SIT DOWN WITH TANGOV TO DECIDE RULES AND
RATES FOR TANZAM RAILWAY.

3. WHATEVER MAY BE ZAMBIAN RATIONALIZATION AT MOMENT FOR
USING OTHER PORTS IN ADDITION TO DAR, IT IS STILL EARLY IN
GAME AND SUSPECT ANY TANGOV CONCERNS PREMATURE. ACCORDING TO
ALL CALCULATIONS WE AND OTHERS HAVE MADE SO FAR, MAXIMUM
USE OF ALL AVAILABLE FACILITIES WILL STILL LEAVE ZAMBIA HARY
PRESSED FOR LONG TIME TO COME.

NELSON

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